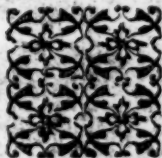


7  
FOR THE INCREASING OF  
Mulberrie trees, And the breeding of  
*Silke-wormes* for the making of  
silke in this Kingdome.

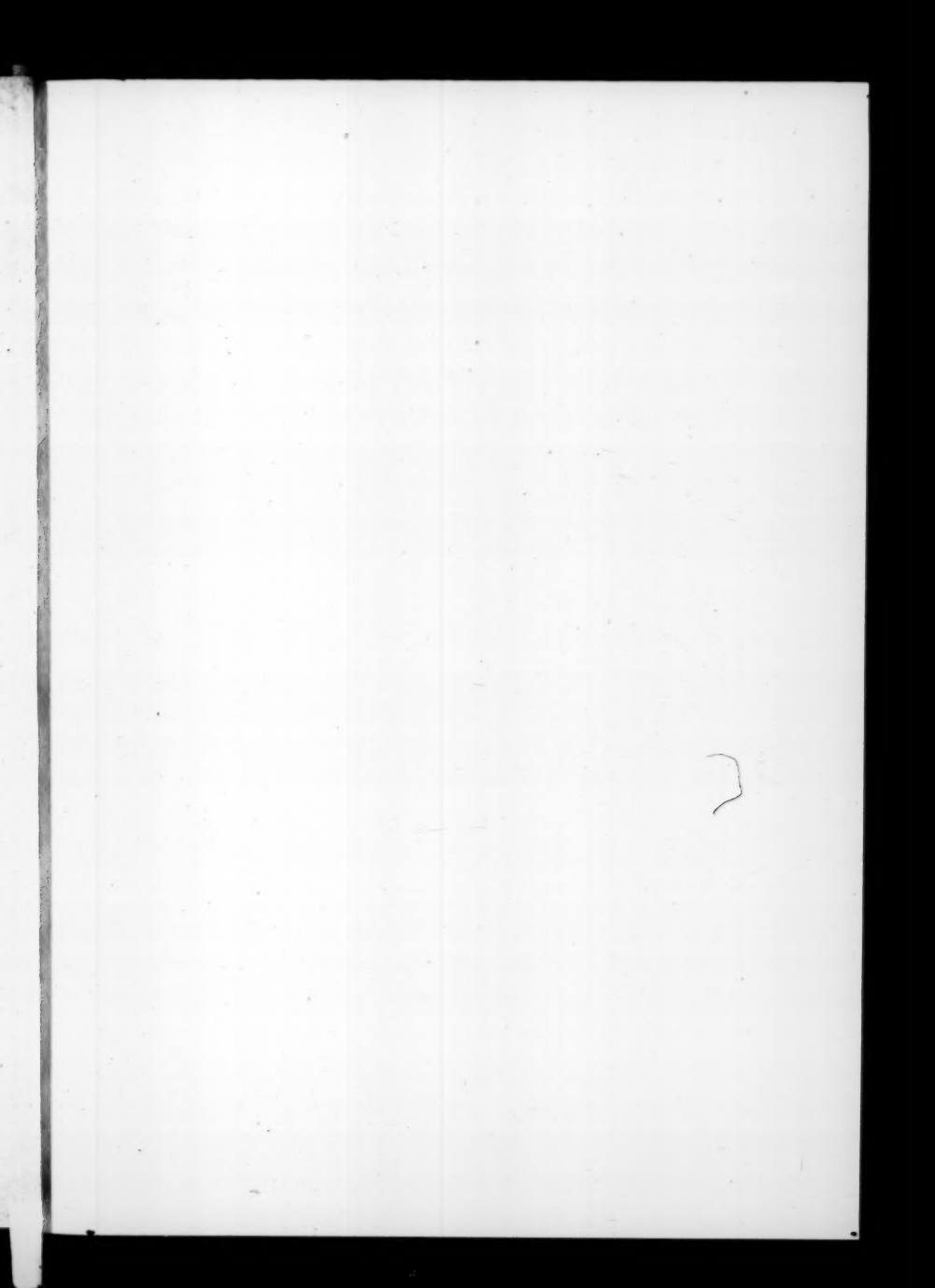
*Whereunto is annexed his Maiesties*  
Letters to the Lords Lieutenants of the  
*seuerall Shiers of England* tending  
to that purpose.



Newly printed. 1609.

c. 3956.

.cc. Pr. XXXV. for the Originals  
of these Prints of the Silkworm:  
by Joh. Stedanus.



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

CHICAGO, ILL. 1900



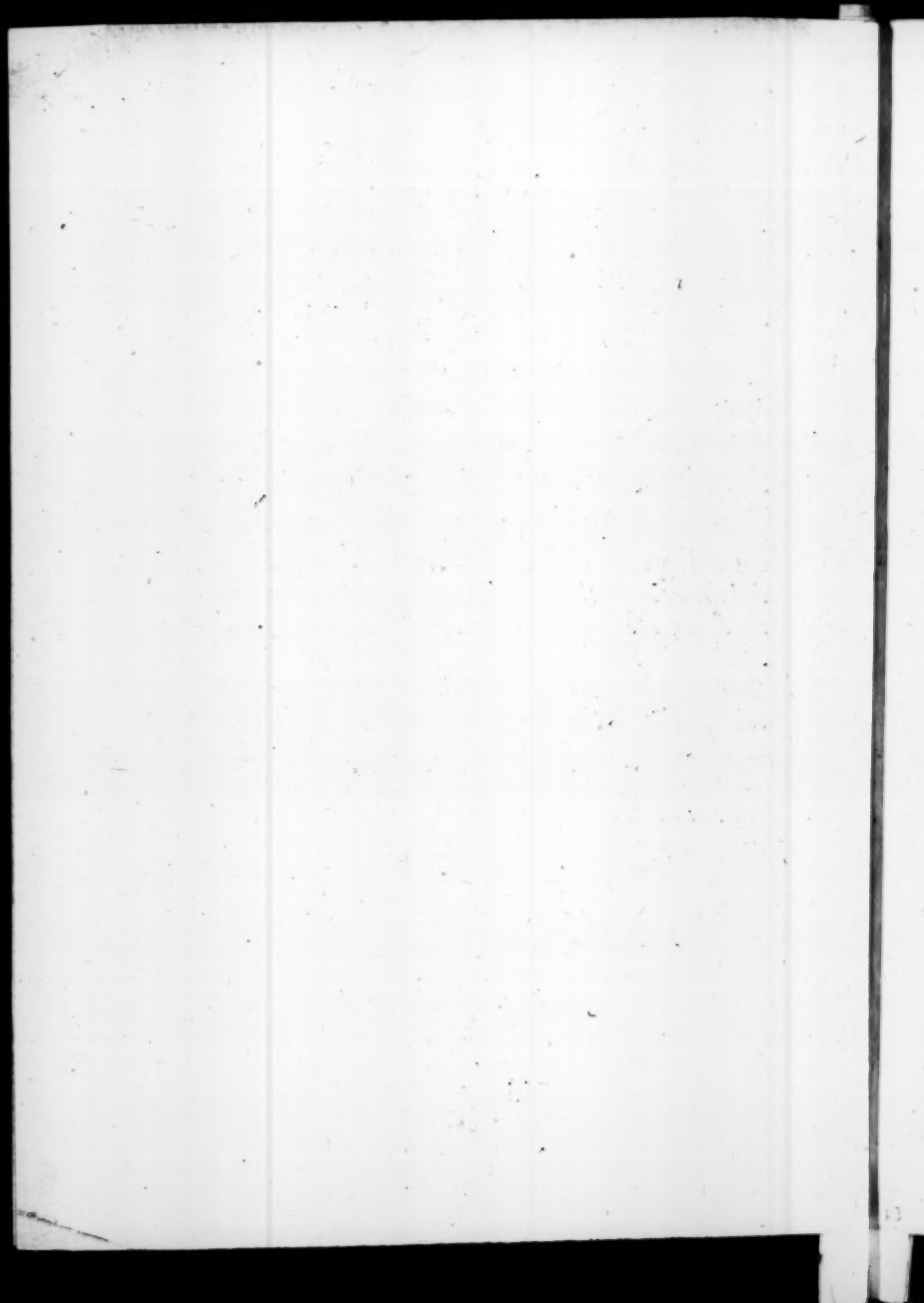
## To the READER.



*S* one desirous of nothing more then the publike good, I here most willingly impart unto thee (Gentle Reader) that which by my owne experience I finde in regard of the benefit it affords, worthy thy paines and obseruation. It hath pleased his Maiestie out of his deepe discerning iudgement, to giue my purpose a speciall approbation, and withall to expresse a willingnesse in himselfe to further so good a businesse, as by his gracious Letters herunto annexed most manifestly appeares. Accept therefore of these my brieve directions, and approoue of them as they prooue: I could haue extended them to a farther length, but Oratorie needes not where the thing it selfe perswades: Yet some peraduenture that haue laboured in the like before, will take occasion to countenance themselves and make my breuitie an argument of insufficiencie, although I hope they will consider that a Kings Picture may be as perfect in a pennie as in the largest coine.

And whatsoeuer hath beene by them published, interpreting other mens workes, according to the practise thereof in Forraigne parts, where the same as yet is generally better understood, I doubt not but future triall will verifie this my booke to be euery way here more correspondent to the creature whereof it treates: and for such I commend it to each vniuersall understanding. Remaining alwaies,

Thine for the publike Weale.





JAMES Rex.

*Right trustie and Welbeloued, we greete  
you well.*



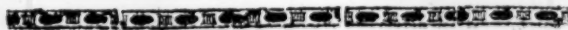
It is a principall part of that Christian care which appertaineth to Soueraigntie, to endeavour by all meanes possible, as well to beget as to increase among their people the knowledge and practise of all Artes and Trades, whereby they may be both wained from idlenesse and the enormities thereof, which are infinite, and exercised in such industries and labours, as are accompanied with euident hopes, not onely of preserving people from the shame and griefe of penurie, but also of rayeing and encreasing them in wealth and abundance, The scope which euery freeborne spirit aimeth at, not in regard of himselfe onely and the ease which a plentiful estate bringeth to euery one in his particular, but also in regard of the honour of their natiue countrey, whose commendations is no way more set forth then in the peoples actiuenes and industrie. The consideration whereof hauing of late occupied our minde, who alwaies esteeme our peoples good our necessarie contemplations, we haue conceived as well by the discourse of our owne reason, as by information, gathered from others, that the making of silke might as well be effected here as it is  
in

in the kingdome of France, where the same hath of late yeares beene put in practise: For neither is the clymate of this Isle so farre distinct or different in condition from that countrey, especially from the hither parts therof, but that it is to be hoped that those things which by industrie prosper there, may by like industrie vsed here haue like successe: and many priuate persons who for their pleasure haue bred of those wormes, haue found no experience to the contrarie, but that they may be nourished and maintained here if prouision were made for planting of Mulberrie trees, whose leaues are the food of the Wormes. And therefore we haue thought good hereby to let you vnderstand, that although in suffering this inuention to take place, we doe shew our selues somewhat an aduersarie to our profit, which in the matter of our Customes for silke brought from beyond the Seas, will receiue diminution: Neuerthelesse, when there is question of so great and publique vtilitie to come to our Kingdome and subiects in generall, and whereby (besides multitudes of people of both sexes and all ages) such as in regard of impotencie are vnfit for other labour, may be set on worke, comforted, and releued; We are content that our priuate benefit shall giue way to the publique, and therefore beeing perswaded that no well affected Subject will refuse to put his helping hand to such a worke as can haue no other priuate ende in vs, but the desire of the wel-fare of our people, we haue thought good in this forme onely to require you (as a person of greatest authoritie within that Countie) and from whome the generalitie may receiue notice of our pleasure (with more conueniencie then otherwise) to take occasion either at the quarter Sessions, or at some other pub-



publique place of meeting, to perswade and require such as are of abilitie (without descending to trouble the poore, for whome we seeke to prouide) to buie and distribute in that Countie, the number of ten thousand Mulberrie plants, which shall be deliuered vnto them at our Citie of, &c. at the rate of three farthings the Plants; or at sixe shillings the hundred, containing fuescore plants. And because the buying of the said Plants at this rate, may at first seeme chargeable to our said Subjects, (whome we would be loath to burthen) we haue taken order, that in March or Aprill next, there shall be deliuered at the said place a good quantitie of Mulberrie seedes, there to be sold to such as will buie them, By meanes whereof the said plants will be deliuered at a smaller rate then they can be afforded being carried from hence: hauing resolved also in the meane time that there shall be published in print a plaine Instruction and direction, both for the encreasing of the saide Mulberrie-trees, the breeding of the Silke-wormes, and all other things needefull to be vnderstood, for the perfecting of a worke euery way so commendable and profitable, as well to the planter, as to those that shall vse the trade. Hauing now made knowne vnto you the motiues as they stand, with the publike good, wherein euery man is interessd, because we know how much the example of our owne Deputie-Leiutenants and Iustices, will further this cause, if you and other your neighbours will be content to take some good quantities hereof, to distribute vpon your own lands: we are content to acknowledge thus much more in this direction of ours, that all things of this nature tending to plantations, increase of Science, and workes of industrie, are things so naturally pleasing to

our owne disposition, as we shall take it for an argument of extraordinary affection towards our person; besides, the iudgement we shall make of the good dispositions in all those that shall expresse in any kinde their readie minds, to further the same, And shall esteeme that in furthering the same, they seeke to further our honour and contentment, who hauing seene in few yeares space past, that our Brother the French King hath since his coming to that Crowne, both begonne and brought to perfection the making of Silkes in his countrey, whereby he hath wonne to himselfe honour, and to his subiects a meruailous increase of wealth, would account it no little happinesse to vs, if the same worke which we begun among our people with no lesse zeale to their good (then any Prince can haue to the good of theirs) might in our time produce the fruits which there it hath done; whereof we nothing doubt, if ours will be found as tractable and apt to further their owne good, now the way is shewed them by vs their Soueraigne, As these of France haue beene to conforme themselves to the directions of their King. Given vnder our Signet at our Pallace of Westminster, the nineteenth of Ianuarie, in the sixt yeare of England, France, and Ireland, and of Scotland the two and fourtieth.





# INSTRUCTION

*for the increasing and plan-  
ting of Mulberrie Trees.*

**What ground is fit for the Mulberrie**

seedes, how the same is to be ordered, and in

*what sort the seedes are to be sowed  
therein.*



He ground which ought to be appointed for this purpose, besides the naturall goodnesse of it, must be reasonably well dunged, and withall so situated, as that the heate of the Sunne may cherishe it, and the nipping blais of either the North winde or the East, may not annoy it: the choise thereof thus made, that the seedes may the better prosper, and come vp after they be sowne, you shall digge it two foote deepe, breaking the clods as small as may be, and afterward you shall deuide the same into severall Beds of not aboute five foote in Breadth, so that you shall not neede to indanger the plants by treading vpon them, when either you water or weede them.

The Mulberrie seedes you shall lay in water for the space of xxij. houres, and after that you shall drie them againe halfe drie, or somewhat more, that when

*Instructions for the increase and*

you sowe them they may not cleaue together: Thus done, you must cast them vpon the foresaid beds, not altogether so thicke as you vse to doe other garden seedes, and then couer them with some fine earth (past through a Sieue) about halfe an inch thicke: In dry weather you shall water them euery two dayes at the farthest, as likewise the Plants that shall come of them; and keepe them as cleane from weedes as possibly you can.

The time in which you ought to sowe them for your best aduantage, is either in March, Aprill, or May, when frostes are either altogether past, or at the least not so sharpe, or of so long continuance, as to indanger their vpspring.

There is yet another way to sowe them, and that is as followeth: you shall (beeing directed by a strait line) make certaine furrowes in the beds aboue mentioned of some foure fingers deepe, and about a foote in distance the one from the other: After this, you shall open the earth with your hands, on either side of the aforesaid Furrowes, some two fingers from the

bottome, and where you haue so opened it,

shall you sowe your seedes; and then

couer them halfe a finger thicke

with the earth which be-

fore you ope-

ned..

When

## When the Plants that are sprung

vp of the feedes, are to be remooued, and  
how they are to be planted  
the first time.

**I**N the moneths of September, October, Nouember, December, March, or Aprill, the next yeare after the feedes are sowne, you may remooue their plants, (or in the moneth of Ianuarie, if it be not in frostie weather) and set them in the like beds as before, but first you must cut off their rootes leauing them about eight inches in length, and their tops about halfe a foote aboue their rootes, more or lesse, according to the strength of the said plants, for the weaker they be, the lesse toppes you shall leaue them. In this sort you may suffer them to remaine (weeding and watering them as neede shall require) till they be growne fixe foote in length aboue their rootes, whereunto when once they haue attained, you may cut their tops, and suffer them to spread, alwaies hauing a care to take away the many branches or succours, that may any way hinder their growth, vntill they be come to their full length of fixe foote, as aforesaid.

## **When, and how the Plants are to be**

remoued the second time, and in what manner they are to be planted where they shall remaine.

**I**N the Moneths aforefaide, (according as your Plants are waxen strong,) you may remooue them either into the hedges of your fields, or into any other grounds. If in hedges, you must set them sixteene foote the one from the other: if in other ground, intending to make a wood of them, eightene foote at the least. But a moneth before you doe remooue them, you must make the holes (wherein you purpose to set them) about foure foote in breadth, and so deepe as that their rootes may be well couered, and some halfe a foote of loose earth left vnder them, hauing alwaies a speciall care so to place them, that they may receiue the benefit of the Sunne, and not to be shadowed or ouerspread by any neighbouring trees.

When

*planting of Mulberrie-Trees.*

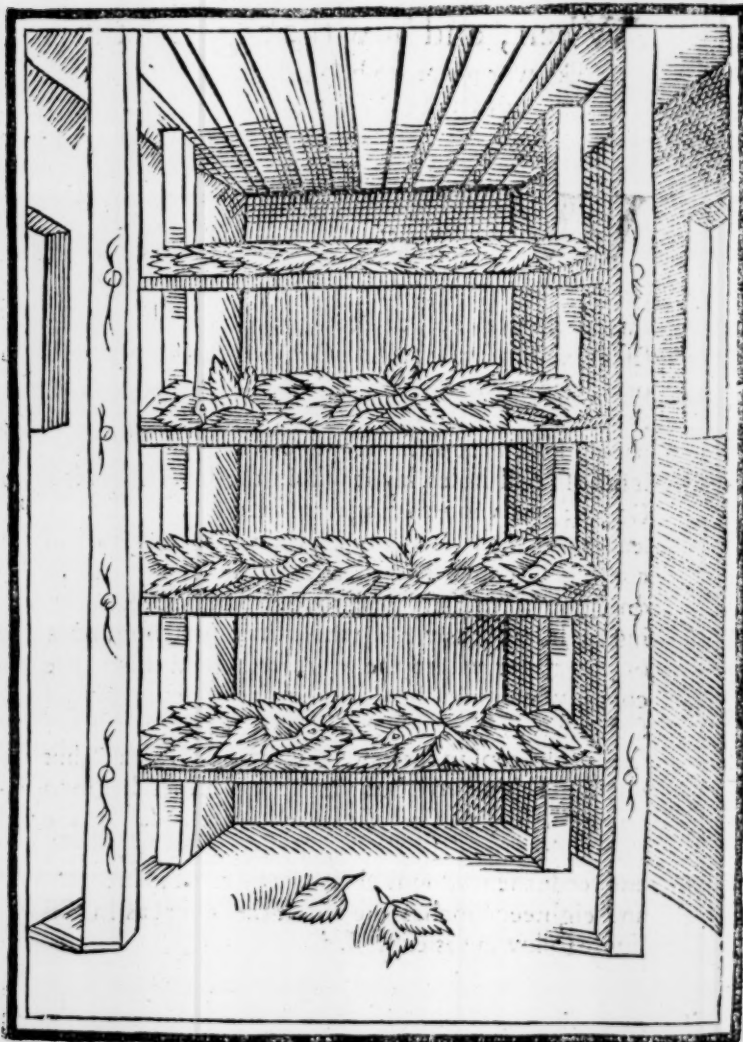
**When, and how the egges of the**

Silke-wormes are to be hatched, and how to  
order the Wormes that shall  
come of them.

**W**Hen the leaues of Mulberrie trees begin a little to bud forth, take the Egges of your Silke-wormes, and lay them in a peece of Say, or such like stufte, and in the day time carie them in some warme place about you, in a little safe Boxe, but in the night either lay them in your bed or betweene two warme pillowes, vntill such time as the wormes begin to come forth: then take a peece of paper of the widenesse of the said boxe, and hauing cut it full of small holes, lay it within the same vpon the Egges, and vpon that againe some fewe Mulberrie leaues, to which the Wormes as they are hatched, will continually come. These leaues with the wormes vpon them, you must still remooue into other boxes, laying fresh leaues as well on those that are remooued as on the paper where the egges are; and this is the course which must be duly kept and obserued, vntill such times as all the wormes become forth of their shells, still keeping their boxes warme, as aforesaid, but no longer about you, but vntill the wormes begin to come forth, out of which boxes you may safely take them, when once they haue past their second sicknesse, and feede them vpon shelues of two foote in breadth, and eightene inches one aboue the other, as in this figure following is expressed.

The

*Instructions for the increase and*





*planting of Mulberrie-Trees.*

The said shelles are not to be placed in any ground roome, nor yet next vnto the Tyles, but in some middle roome of your house, which openeth vpon the North and South, that you may the more conueniently giue them either heate or aire, according as the time & season shall require. Besides, you must not make them close vnto the Walles, but so as you may passe about them, the better to looke vnto the Wormes, and keep them from Rats and Mice, which otherwise might deuoure them. You must obserue the times of their comming forth, and keepe euery one or two daies hatching by themselves, that you may the better vnderstand their seuerall sicknesses or sleepings, which are foure in the time of their feeding. The first commonly some twelue daies after they are hatched, and from that time at the end of every eight daies, according to the weather, and their good or ill vsage: during which time of every sickness, which lasteth two or three daies, you must feede them but verie little, as onely to releue such of them, as shall haue past their sickness before the rest, and those that shall not fall into their sickness so soone.

The whole time that the wormes doe feede, is about nine weekes, whereof vntill they come vnto their first sickness, giue them young Mulberrie leaues twice euery day, but fewe at a time; from thence vntill their second sickness, twice euery day in greater quantitie; and so from their second to their third sickness, increasing the quantitie of the leaues, according as you perceiue the wormes to growe in strength, and cleare of sickness: from the third vntill their fourth sickness, you may giue them leaues thrice euery day

*Instructions for the increase and*

and the fourth beeing past, you may let them haue so many as they will eate, alwaies hauing a care that you giue them none, but such as are drie, and well ayred vpon a Table or cloath, before they be laid vpon them, and withall gathered so neere as may be, at such times as either the sunne or winde hath cleared them of the deawe that falleth vpon them.

For the feeding of Wormes you neede obserue no other order then this, lay the Mulberie leaues vpon them, and euery two or three dayes remooue them, and make cleane their boxes, or shelues, vnlesse in times of their sicknesse, for then they are not to be touched: the leaues which you take from them when you giue them fresh to feed vpon, you must lay in some conuenient place, and vpon them a fewe newe leaues, to which the wormes that lay hidden in the olde, will come, and then you may passe them with the said new leaues to the rest of the wormes: and now least any thing should be omitted, which serues to perfect the discouerie of so excellent a benefit, I will aduise you to be very diligent in keeping cleane their Boxes, or Shelues, as beeing a speciall meanes whereby to preserve them; wherefore when you intend to doe it, you shall remooue them together with the vppermoste leaues whereon they lie, vnto other boxes or shelues, for with your hands you may not touch them, till they haue thoroughly vnder-gone their third sicknesse, and then you may passe them gently with cleane hands, without doing them any harme: provided that the partie that commeth neere them smell not of garlick, onyons, or the like. The first fīue weekes of their age you must be very carefull to keepe them warme, and  
in

*planting of Mulberrie-Trees.*

in time of raine or cold weather, to set in the roome where they remaine, a pan with coales, burning in it now and then some Iuniper, Benjamin, and such like, that yeeldeth sweete sinells. But afterwards, vntill in time of extraordinary cold, giue them ayre, and take heede of keeping them too hot, being alwaies mindefull to store the roome with hearbes and flowers which are delightfull and pleasing to the smell. As the wormes increase in bignesse, you shall disperse them abroad vpon more boards, or shelues, and not suffer them to lie too thicke together, and if you finde any of them broken, or of a yellowe glistering colour inclining to sicknesse, cast them away, lest they infect the rest, and sort such as are not sicke, the greatest and strongest by themselues, for so the lesser will prosper the better.

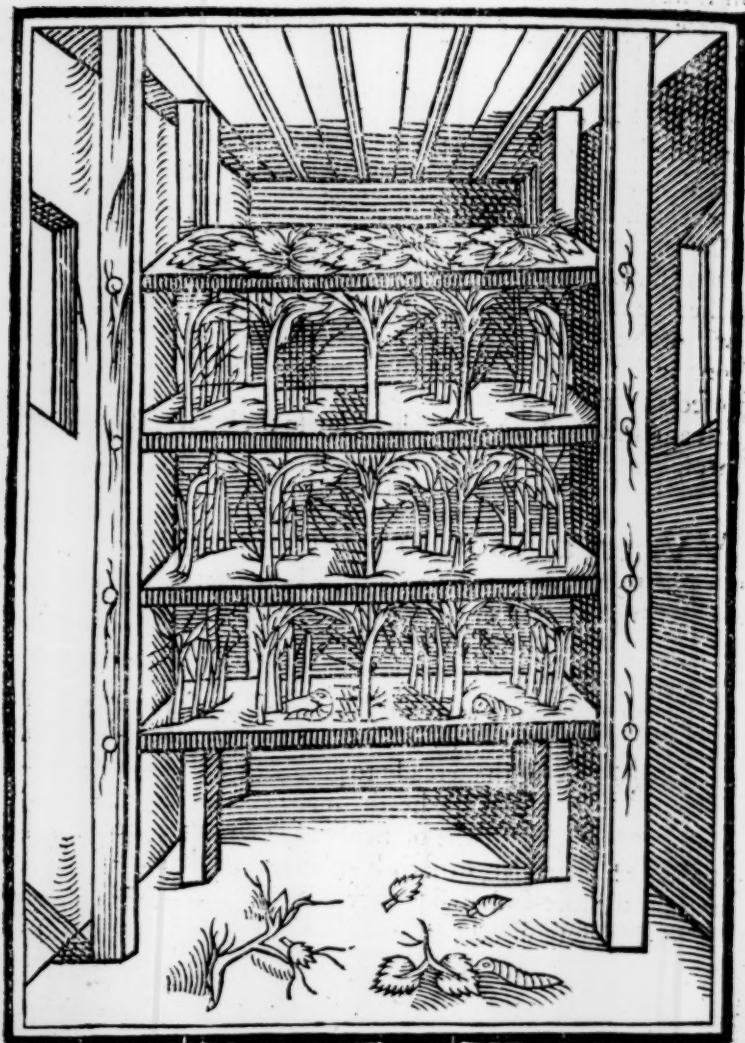
**V**When, and how to make fit roomes

for the Wormes to worke their bottomes of silke in, and in what sort the said bottomes are to be vsed.



S soone as by the cleare amber coloured bodies of your Wormes, you shall perceiue them ready to giue their silke, you must (with heath made very cleane, or with the branches of Rosemarie, the stalkes of Lauender, or such like) make Arches betweene the fore-said shelues according as this figure following doth direct you.

*Instructions for the increasing and*



*planting of Mulberie-Trees.*

Vpon the branches and sprigs whereof, the wormes will fasten themselves, and make their bottoms, which in foureteene daies after the worine bebegineth to worke them, you may take away; and those which you are minded to vse for the best silke, you must either presently winde, or kill the Worms which are within them, by laying the said bottomes two or three daies in the Sunne, or in some Ouen after the bread baked therein is taken out, and the fierceneffe of the heat is alaide. The other bottoms which you intend to keep for seede, you must lay in some conuenient warme place, vntill the Wormes come forth, which is commonly some sixteene or twenty daies from the beginning of their worke: and as they doe come forth you must put them together vpon some peece of old Say, Grogeran, the backside of old Veluet, or the like, made fast against some Wall or hangings in your house, according as this figure following sheweth.

There they will ingender, and the Male hauing spent himselfe, falleth downe, and in short time after dieth, as also doth the Female, when she hath laide her Egges, Which Egges when you perceiue them vpon the Sey or Grogeran, &c. to be of a graish colour, you may take them off gently with a knife, and hauing put them in a peece of Sey, or suchlike, keepe them in a couered box amongst your wollen clothes, or the like, till the yeare following: But not in any moist roome, for it is hurtfull for them, neither where there is too much heate, least the wormes should be hatched before you can haue any foode for them.

*Instructions for the increase and*



*planting of Mulberrie-Trees.*

The making of a Wheele, as likewise the way to winde the said Silke from the bottomes, can hardly be set downe so plainly, as to be rightly vnderstoode: Wherefore when time shall serue, there shall be sent into euery Countie of this kingdome, a Wheele readie made, and a man that shall instruct all such as are desirous to learne the vse thereof: Till when, I will commend these breefe instructions to be carefully considered, of all such as are willing either to benefit themselves or their country, that beeing skilfull in the Contemplation, they may the readier, and with lesse error apply themselves to Action, which painefull industry with Gods assistance, will quickly perfect.

Those young plants of a yeare old mentioned in his Maiesties letters haue beene deliuered in euery Shiere according to his highnesse pleasure. But if any man would haue any Mulberrie trees of 3, 4, 5, or 6, yeare old, or mulberie seedes to be sown in their gardens, or other places according to the direction of this book, let him repaire vnto M. Forrest his Maiesties Seruant at the Duke of Lenox his lodging at the Court, or els in Milford lane neere Temple barre, at one M. Braband his house, or els, at M. Been goldsmith dwelling in S. Martins lane neere Cheapeside: or at M. Nicholas the Queenes gardener at Somerset house, deputies of the said M. Forrest.

FINIS.

